

May 3, 2021

The Telford Borough Council meeting held this date was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John Taylor with the following people in attendance: Miles Arnott, Bill Ashley, Robert Baker, Mark Gehman and Jeffrey Maxwell. Also present were Mayor David Snook, Manager Mark Fournier, Recording Secretary Megan McShane, Public Works Director Gary Yoder, Solicitor James Jacquette, Police Chief Randall Floyd, Fire Company President Jerry Guretse, Troop 14 representatives Andrew Brown, Ben Moyer, Liam Vandenburg and Preston Ziegenfuss and residents Wendy Leshinskie, Lori Rappold and Nicole Spiese. Carolyn Crouthamel was absent.

The invocation was given by Councilman Bill Ashley, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

A Gehman/Arnott motion carried unanimously (6-0) approving the minutes of the April 5, 2021 Borough Council meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Manager Mark Fournier reported that the Borough has taken in 53.8% of its revenues and spent 25.34% of its expenditures as of the end of April, 2021.

A Baker/Maxwell motion carried unanimously (6-0) approving the Treasurer's Report for April, 2021.

MAYOR'S REPORT: We did not receive a written monthly report for the file.

POLICE REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Council Vice-President Miles Arnott asked Chief Randall Floyd which streets are included in the extra duty speed study that is currently taking place. Chief Floyd stated that Fourth Street, South Main Street, Reliance Road and Washington Avenue are included in the study. Chief Floyd gave an overview of the program and reported that car stops were up this month.

Mr. Arnott then inquired about the 54% of budgeted vehicle maintenance costs for 2021 that were already spent in the first quarter. Chief Floyd reported that the replacement of the 2011 Chevrolet Tahoe had originally been scheduled for this year, but was deferred and there have been significant repairs made to the Tahoe to keep it in service.

Mr. Arnott and Mayor David Snook both commented that they enjoyed the staff spotlight in Chief Floyd's report.

Council President John Taylor asked Chief Floyd if there has been any insight from the state about the radar guns. Chief Floyd reported that both the Bucks and Montgomery Chiefs Associations and PSAB are monitoring this very closely and he's been told that we're closer than we've ever been to receiving them. Chief Floyd has also sent letters to our legislators.

FIRE REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

LIBRARY REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Councilman Mark Gehman asked if there was anything new to report on the PennDOT County Line Road paving project. Public Works Director Gary Yoder reported that PennDOT marked out every 100 feet for the project.

Councilman Bill Ashley asked what kind of summer help the Public Works Department is looking for, and Mr. Yoder stated that we need help with mowing, trimming, line painting, equipment maintenance and other public works tasks. He added that other area municipalities are also having trouble finding summer help.

MANAGER'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Mr. Fournier reported that the pre-construction meeting for the West Broad Street Water Main Replacement Project is tomorrow.

BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: We did not receive a written monthly report for the file.

Solicitor Jim Jacquette reported that he is working with the Telford Happenings group on their by-laws.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: We received a written monthly report for the file.

Mr. Fournier reported that he was contacted by the Lutheran Home and was told that they really want to get started this summer on their expansion project.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE:

Preston Ziegenfuss from 414 South Hamilton Street stood and introduced himself as the Junior Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 14. He then read detailed remarks that he had prepared, emphasizing the importance of the Community Building to the Troop and asking Council to please re-open the building with all possible haste.

Mr. Arnott thanked Preston for his comments and stated that the Borough is currently following guidelines that are being dictated by the County and the State, but he would like to discuss this at a Public Safety Committee meeting prior to the June 7th Council meeting, since this is an important part of the community.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Ms. Crouthamel

A-1 An Arnott/Baker motion carried unanimously (6-0) authorizing payment of bills for the month of April, 2021 in the amount of \$304,810.01.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE: There was nothing to report at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE: Mr. Gehman

Mr. Gehman gave an overview of the revisions to the Protocol for Act 101 Violations and draft Resolution that were included in the meeting packet. He asked Council to please review this information so it can be voted on at the June 7th meeting, adding that the NMCRC will want to adopt this at their July 15th meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS/BUILDINGS & PLANT COMMITTEE: Mr. Ashley

Councilman Bill Ashley briefly reported on the progress of the Third Street Waterline Installation Project.

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Fournier for an update on the move to the new building. Mr. Fournier reported that the Borough has taken deliveries of most of the furniture, and the phones and new server should be installed shortly. He added that the Borough is trying to be in the new building by Memorial Day.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: Mr. Arnott

PS-1 An Arnott/Ashley motion carried unanimously (6-0) approving the following additional activities for the Telford Volunteer Fire Company: Fire Police Assistance at the Franconia Mennonite Church's Chicken BBQ on May 14th and work in conjunction with other area fire companies at Franconia Township's Fall Fest at Franconia Park on October 9th and 10th, which coincides with Fire Prevention Week.

PS-2 Mr. Arnott read Resolution 21-02 into the Borough Council minutes for permanent record, which recognizes Chief Robert Wiszneski, Chief of the Telford Volunteer Fire Company:

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at approximately 3:12 pm, Chief Robert Wiszneski was first on the scene at a house fire on Green Meadow Lane in Franconia Township. Initial dispatch informed him that there were possibly 4-5 people inside the building. Upon arrival, he reported heavy fire on the second floor of the home.

WHEREAS, Chief Wiszneski was then informed by Montgomery County Dispatch that there was report of an elderly female inside who was unable to walk. He then notified dispatch that he was going to enter the building to see if he could rescue the reported female. Without regard to his own safety, Chief Wiszneski entered the burning building to attempt the rescue. He was unable to egress to the second floor due to intense fire, but continued to make a search of the first floor.

WHEREAS, upon exiting the building, Chief Wiszneski re-assumed command of the firegrounds. He was then informed that there was no entrapment, and under his command, the fire was contained to the initial unit with little or no damage to the adjoining townhomes.

WHEREAS, Chief Wiszneski has demonstrated his courage and commitment to serving the residents of our community many times in the past, however, his actions on that day were truly selfless and heroic and exemplify the highest standard of volunteer fire service.

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the citizens of our community, Telford Borough Council commends Chief Wiszneski for his brave action that day and expresses our heartfelt gratitude for his outstanding leadership of the Telford Volunteer Fire Company by continuing its proud tradition of excellence in public service.

Resolved and adopted this 3rd day of May, 2021.

DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE COMMITTEE: Mr. Baker

DC-1 Councilman Robert Baker reported that the bank account has been set up for Telford Happenings, and money has started to come in from Night Market vendors. The group is currently waiting for non-profit status.

Mr. Baker further reported that the group hired an event coordinator as a subcontractor, and also spoke to Bob Sparks about guidelines for the Market.

As a reminder, the Night Market opens on Wednesday, June 2nd at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Baker then asked Council if they wanted to have the discussion about re-opening the Community Building at this time. It was the consensus of Council that this matter should go through the Public Safety Committee first then come back to Council for further consideration at the June 7th meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Telford Borough Council entered into Executive Session at 8:25 pm to discuss a matter litigation.

Borough Council closed Executive Session at 8:47 pm. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm by an Arnott/Gehman motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark D. Fournier

Secretary